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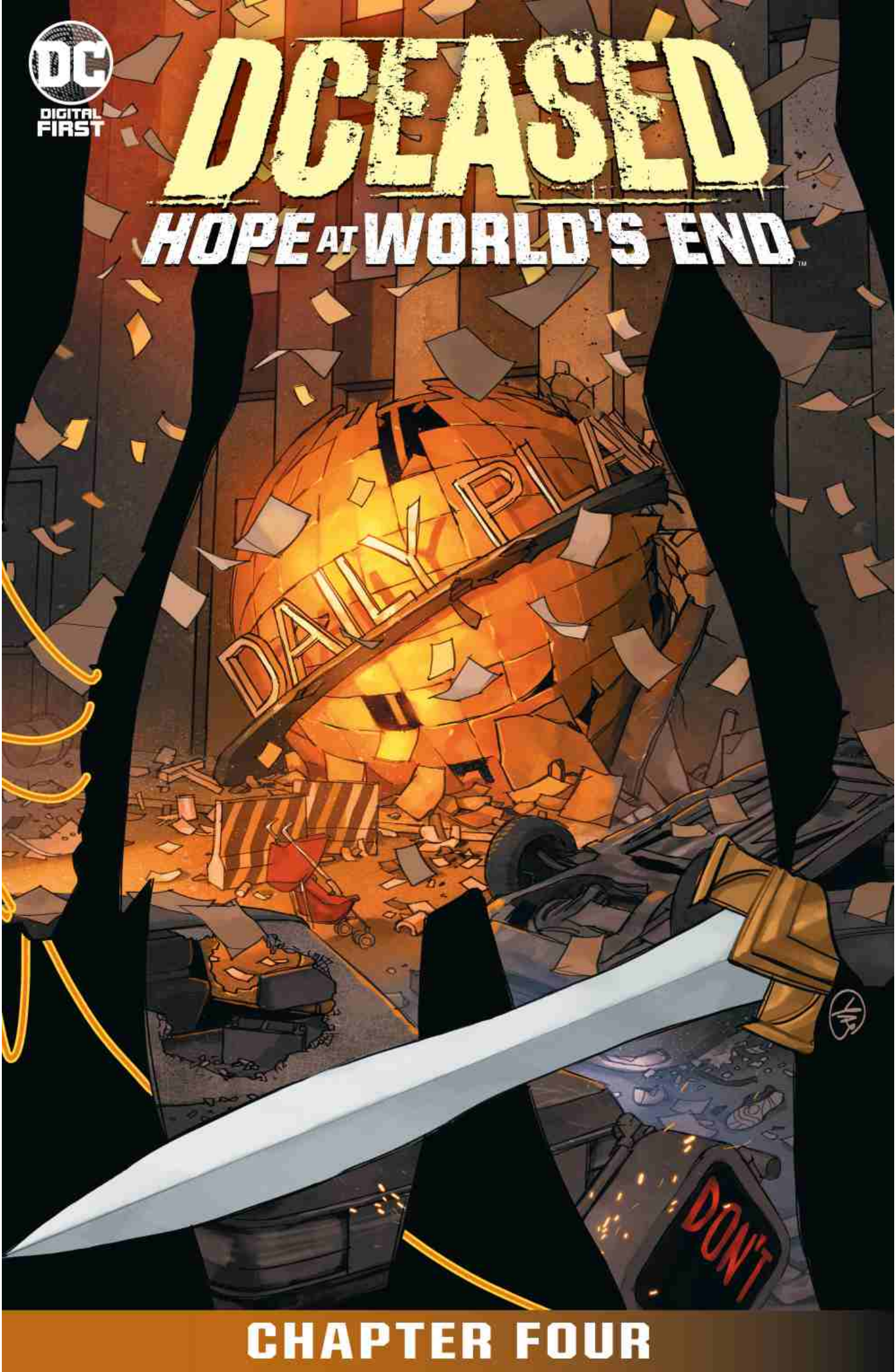
HOPE AT WORLD'S END


DC
DIGITAL FIRST
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HOPE AT WORLD'S END
DAILY PLA
DON'T
CHAPTER FOUR

DCEASED
HOPE AT WORLD'S END

CHAPTER FOUR

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SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER
SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY

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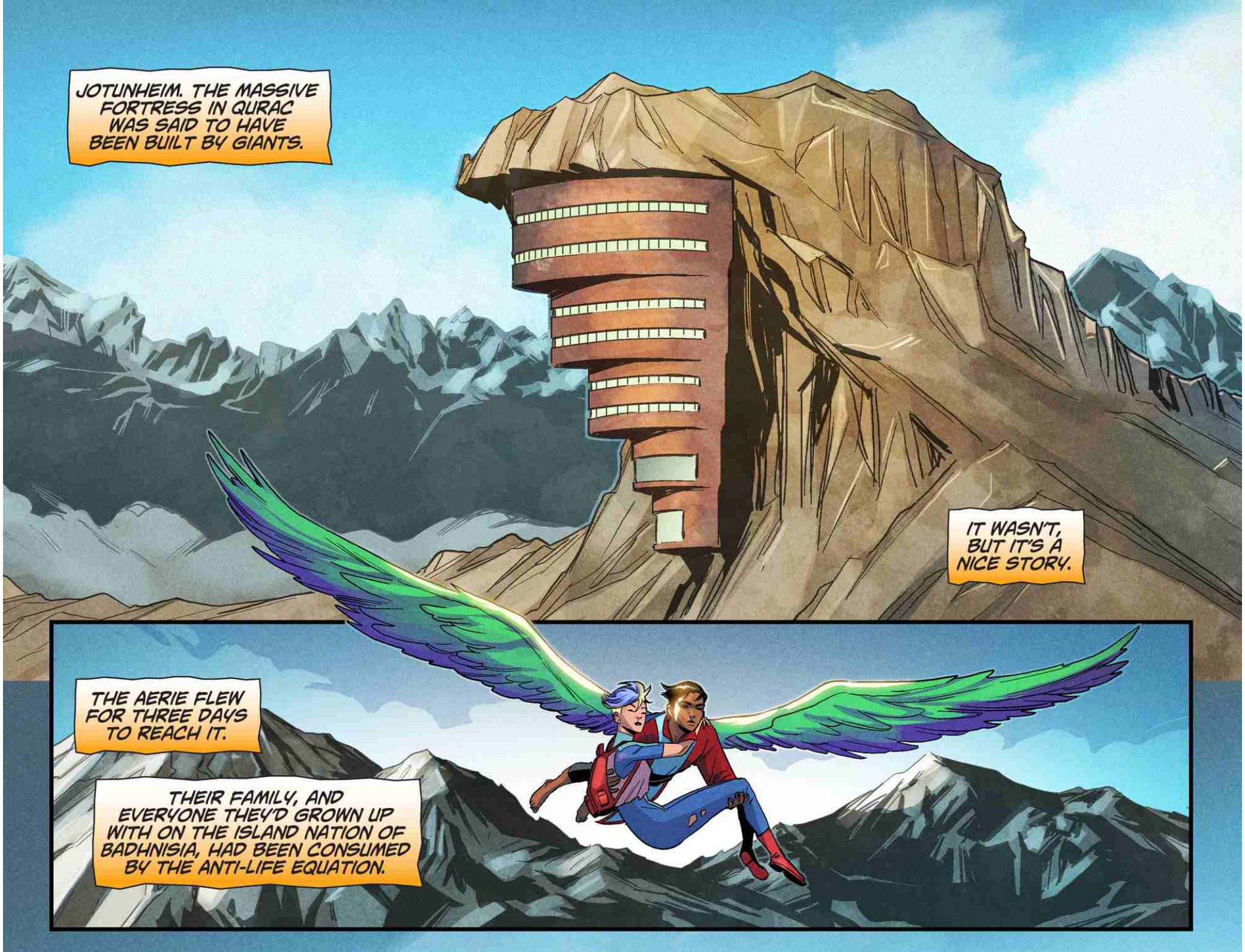

JOTUNHEIM. THE MASSIVE FORTRESS IN QURAC WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN BUILT BY GIANTS.
IT WASN'T, BUT IT'S A NICE STORY.
THE AERIE FLEW FOR THREE DAYS TO REACH IT.
THEIR FAMILY, AND EVERYONE THEY'D GROWN UP WITH ON THE ISLAND NATION OF BADHNISIA, HAD BEEN CONSUMED BY THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION.

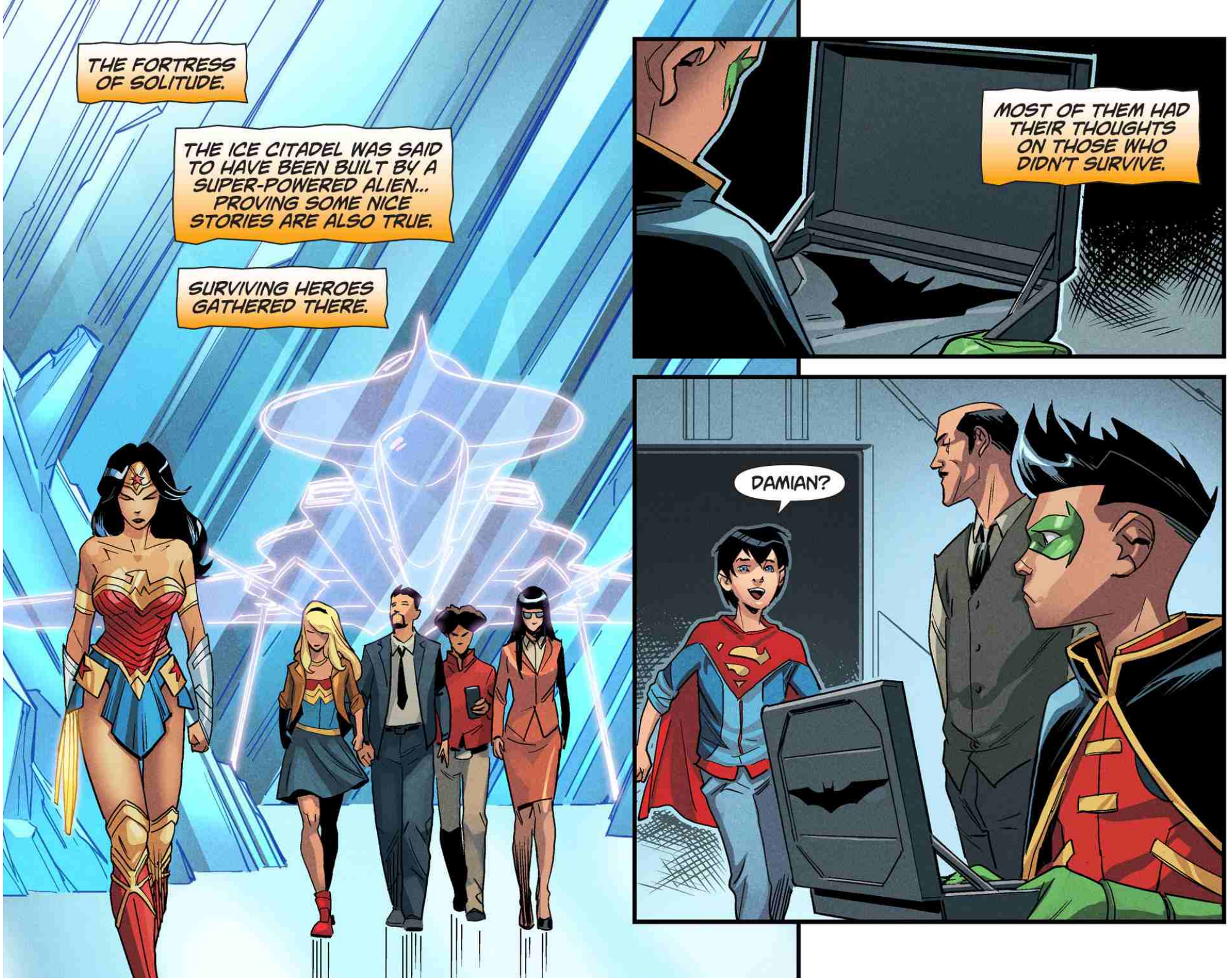
THEY'D NEVER FLOWN SO FAR, BUT LANDING WASN'T AN OPTION.
THE GROUND WAS FULL OF DEATH.
YOU NEED TO REST. YOU'RE EXHAUSTED.
WHAT'S EXHAUSTING IS HAVING TO CONSTANTLY EXPLAIN I'M NOT RESTING UNTIL YOU'RE SAFE.
THEY CARRIED THEIR PARTNER, WINK, HOPING THE FORTRESS WASN'T OVERRUN BY THE UNDEAD.
THEIR HOPES WERE REALIZED. JOTUNHEIM HAD BECOME A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE LIVING.
IT WAS A VERY EFFECTIVE SAFE HAVEN. IN FACT...

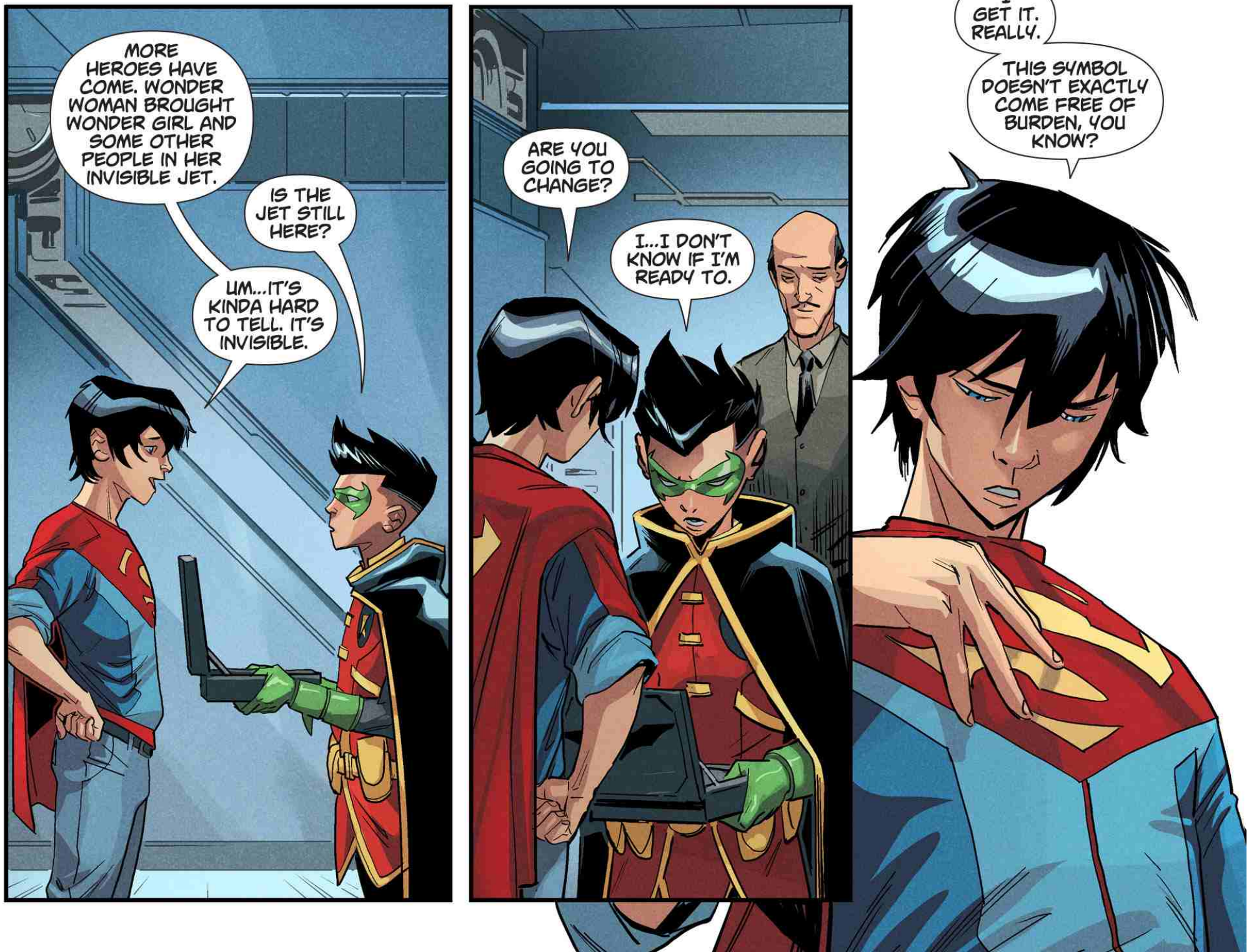
...IT WAS HEAVILY DEFENDED.
RAZA KATTUAH AND MANTICORE MADE IT THEIR MISSION TO STOP ANYTHING FROM ENTERING THE FORTRESS.
FIRE!
BRRRR

WNK
WHAT?
NO ONE HAD BREACHED JOTUNHEIM'S WALLS IN DECADES...

...BUT RECORDS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN.
WINK
ROAARGH!

WAIT! PLEASE!
WE'VE TRAVELED FOR DAYS.
WE ONLY WANT SHELTER.
WE CAN HELP YOU.
ALSO, IF I WANTED TO, I COULD HAVE ALREADY TELEPORTED YOU OUTSIDE THE WALLS, WHERE YOU'D BE HITTING THE GROUND RIGHT ABOUT NOW.

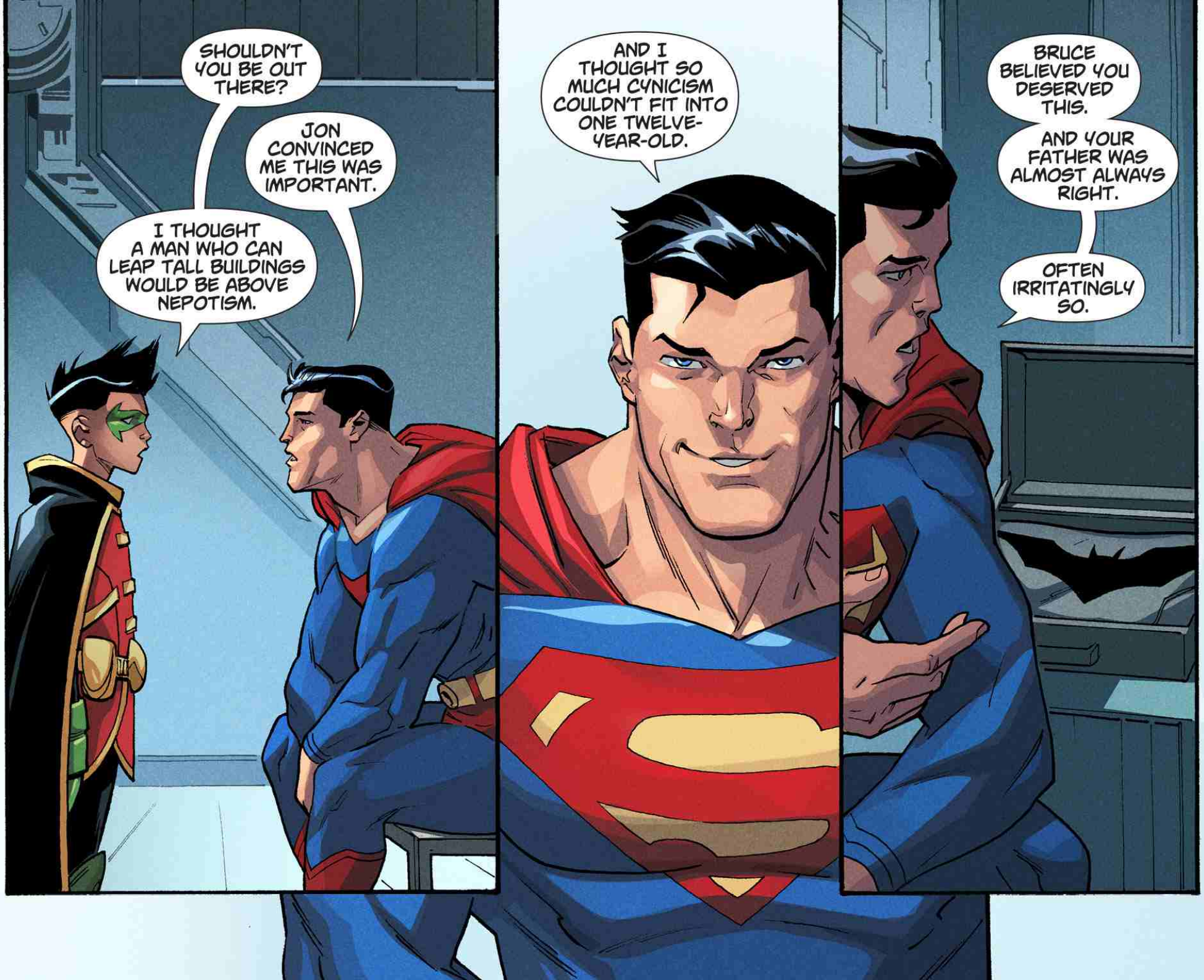

THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.
THE ICE CITADEL WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN BUILT BY A SUPER-POWERED ALIEN... PROVING SOME NICE STORIES ARE ALSO TRUE.
SURVIVING HEROES GATHERED THERE.
MOST OF THEM HAD THEIR THOUGHTS ON THOSE WHO DIDN'T SURVIVE.
DAMIAN?

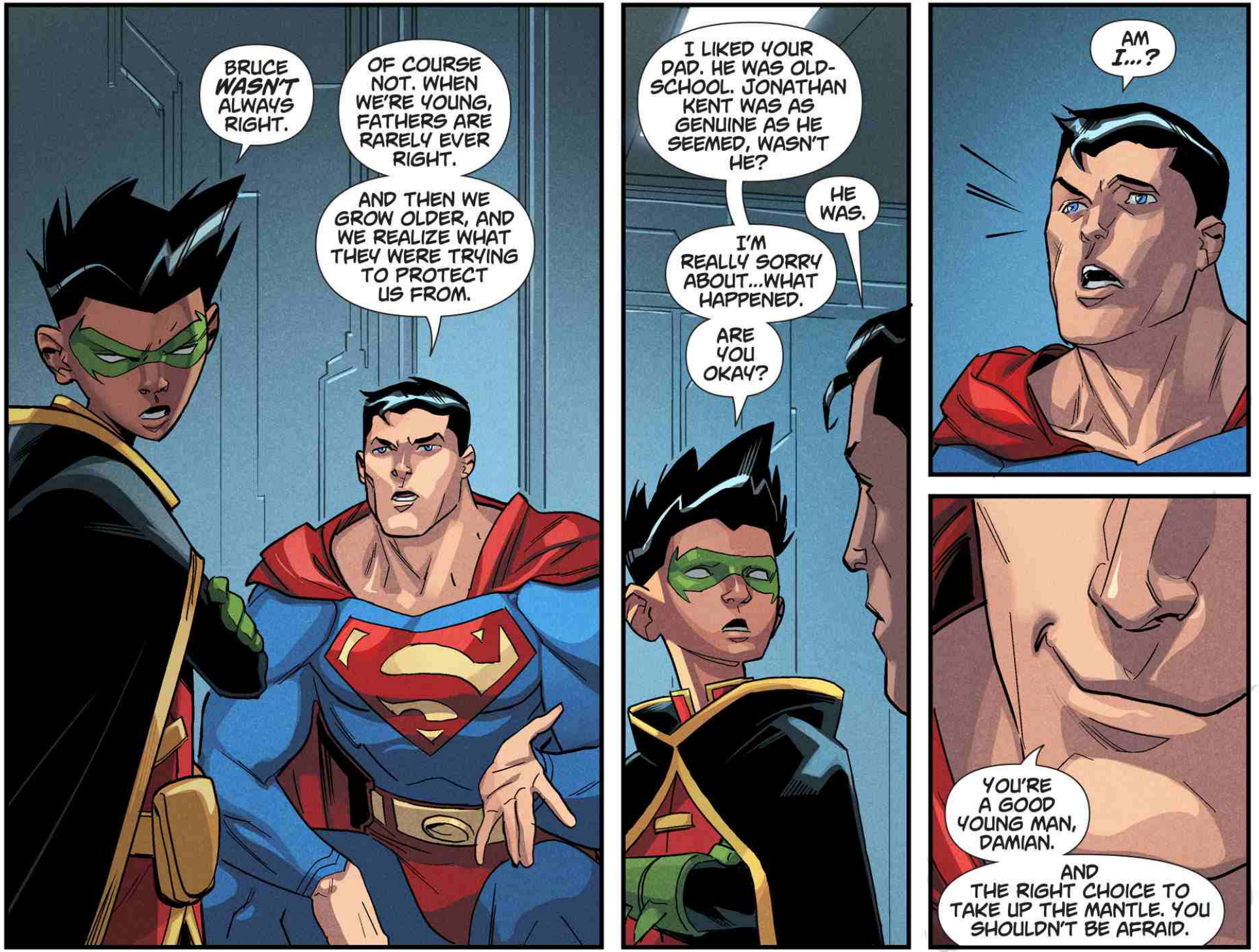

MORE HEROES HAVE COME. WONDER WOMAN BROUGHT WONDER GIRL AND SOME OTHER PEOPLE IN HER INVISIBLE JET.
IS THE JET STILL HERE?
UM...IT'S KINDA HARD TO TELL. IT'S INVISIBLE.
ARE YOU GOING TO CHANGE?
I...I DON'T KNOW IF I'M READY TO.
I GET IT. REALLY.
THIS SYMBOL DOESN'T EXACTLY COME FREE OF BURDEN, YOU KNOW?

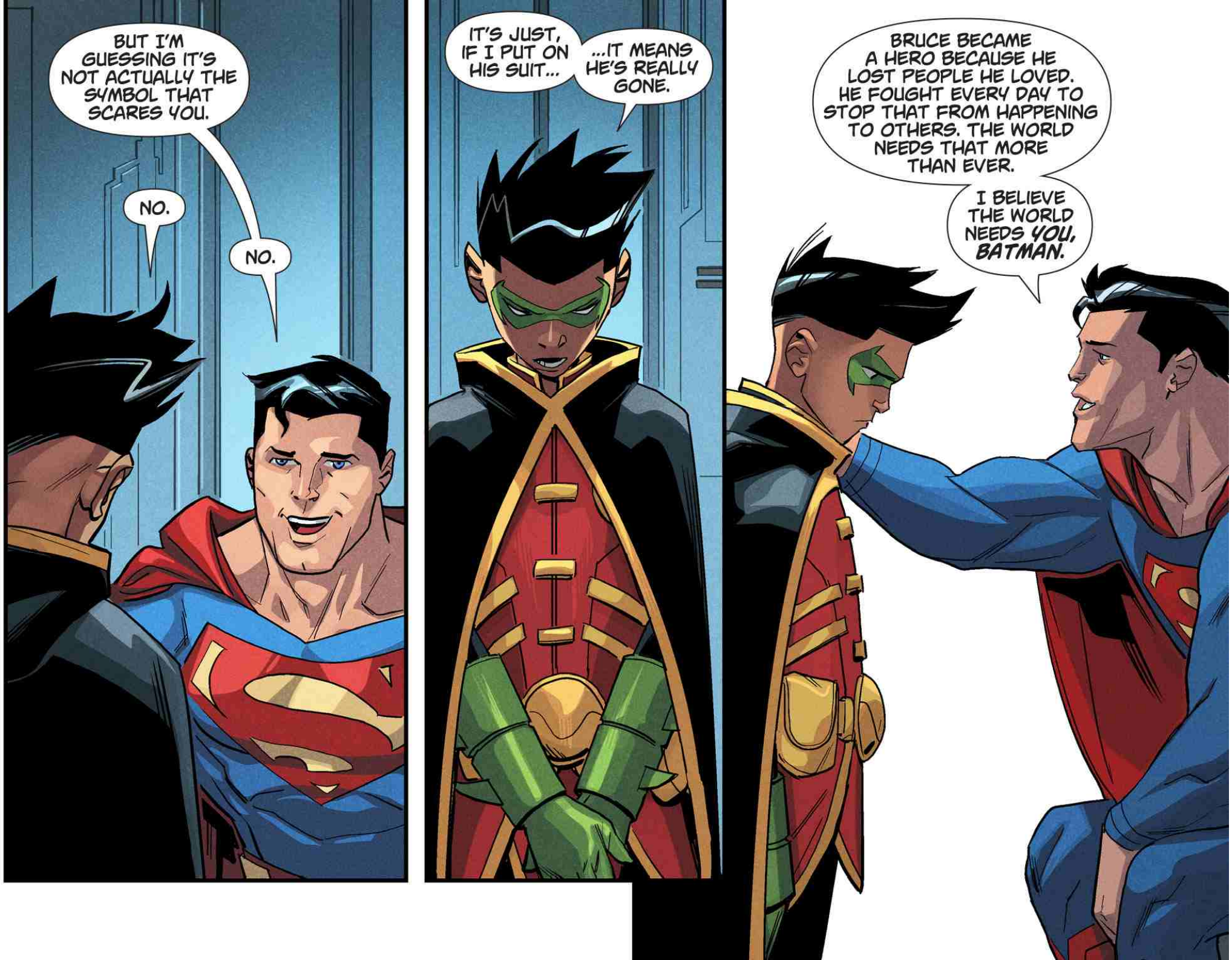
YOU SAID YOU WOULD HELP.
IT IS TIME TO DO SO.
TWO OF OUR MEMBERS, NIGHTSHADE AND HYVE, WERE SENT TO SCOUT TO THE WEST. THEY HAVE NOT RETURNED.
HEY. THE AERIE JUST FLEW FOR THREE DAYS STRAIGHT. GIVE THEM A FEW HOURS TO--
IT'S OKAY, WINK.
WE WILL SEARCH FOR THEM, MANTICORE.

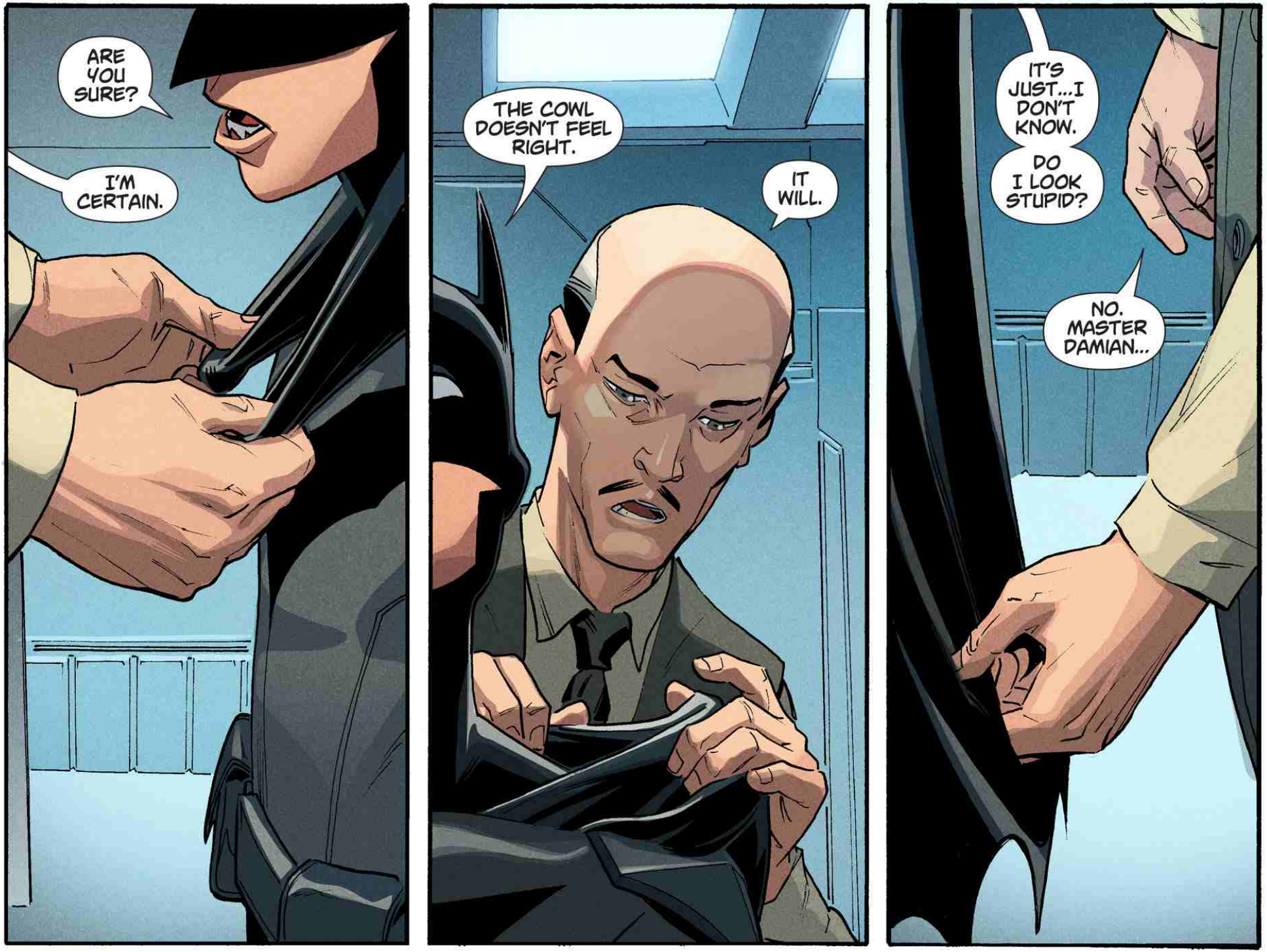
I THINK THE TAIL IS PART OF SOME KIND OF SUIT, BUT I MEAN, THE LION FACE IS REAL, RIGHT?
HOW DOES THAT EVEN HAPPEN TO A PERSON?
I HAVE WINGS.
YEAH... THAT'S A GOOD POINT.

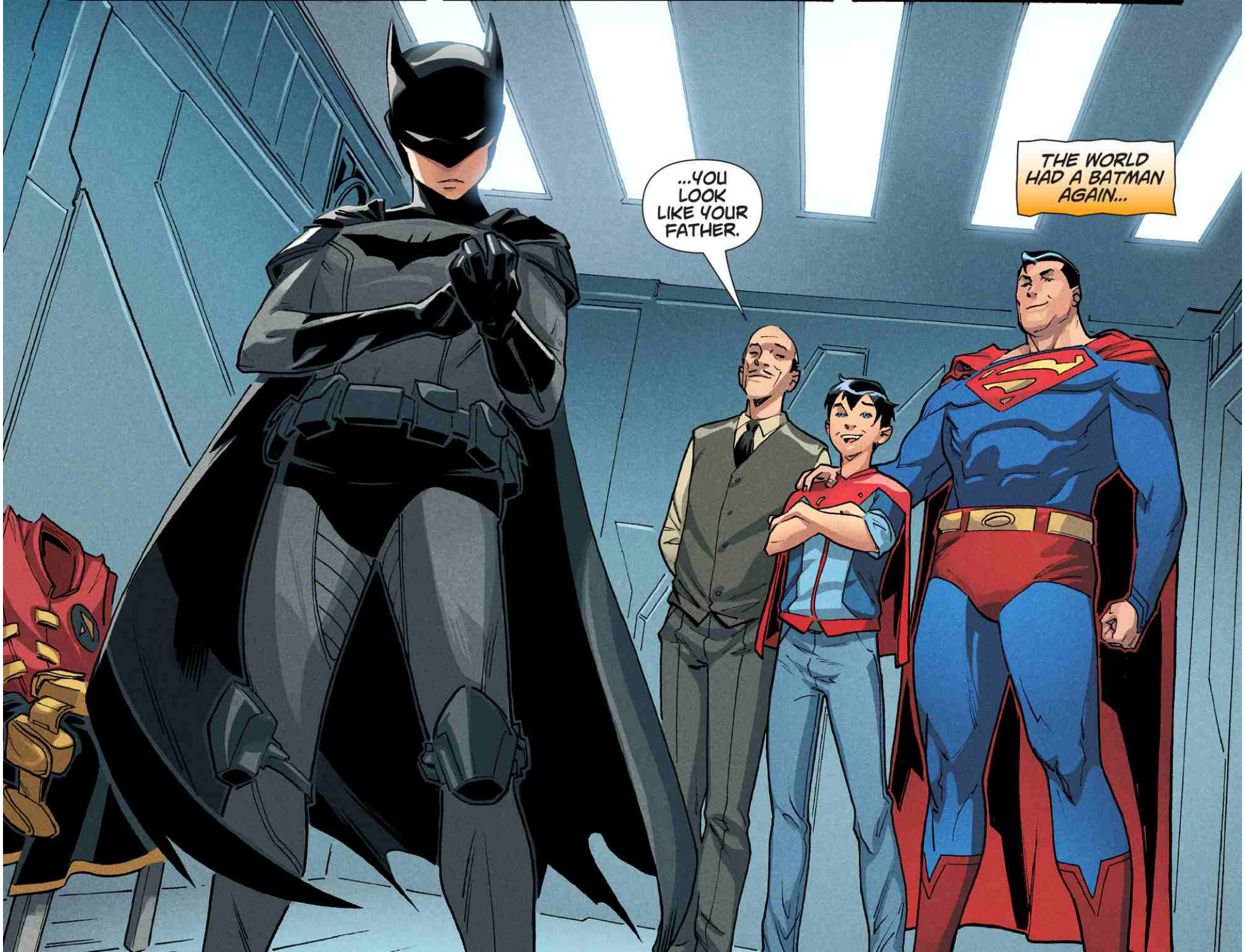
ALFRED. EXCUSE THE INTERRUPTION.
I BROUGHT TEA. EARL GREY, RIGHT?
I... THANK YOU.
I'M NOT USED TO PEOPLE WAITING ON ME, MASTER KENT.
THERE ARE NO MASTERS HERE, ALFRED.
COULD I HAVE A WORD WITH DAMIAN?
OF COURSE. I'LL LEAVE YOU TO IT.

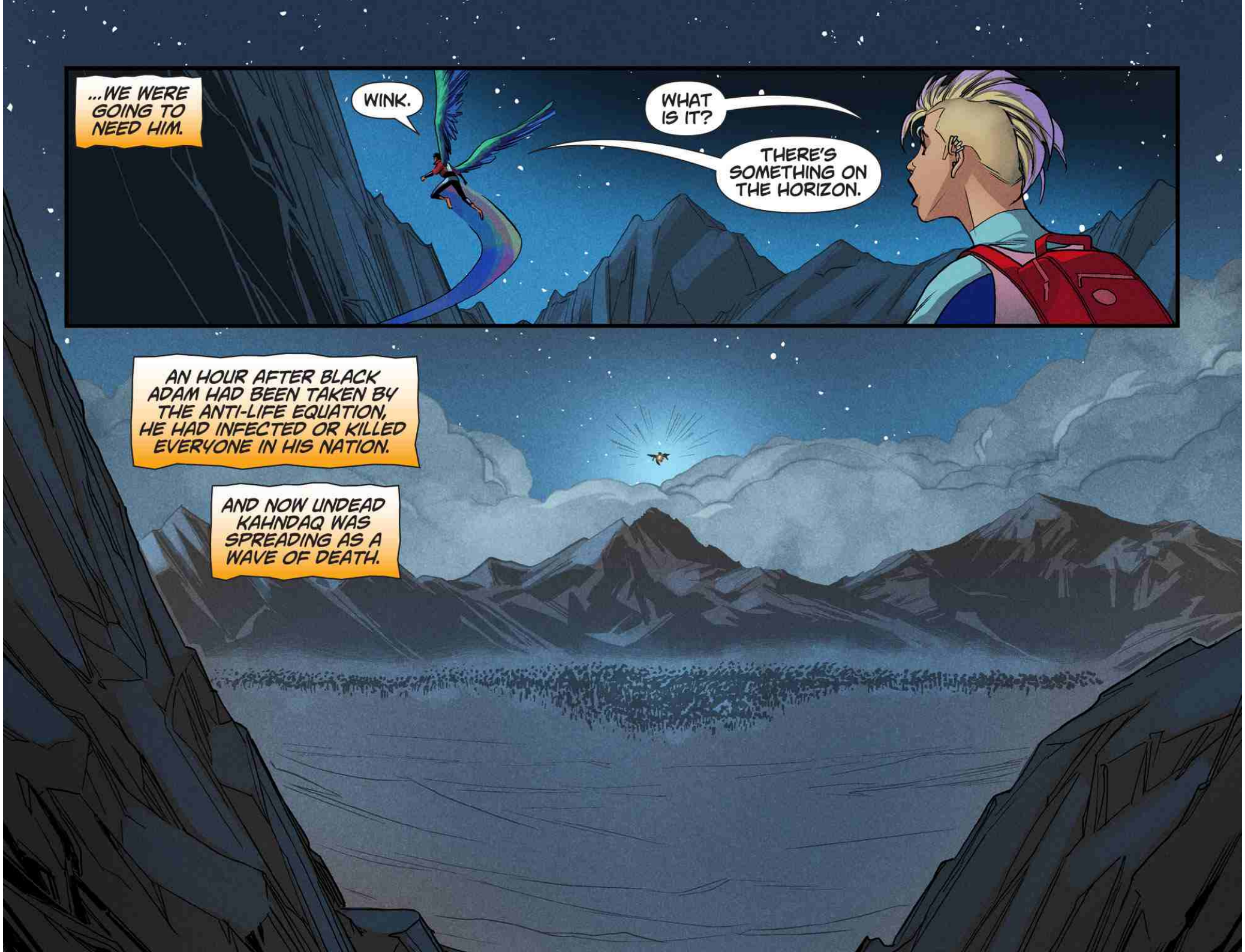

SHOULDN'T YOU BE OUT THERE?
JON CONVINCED ME THIS WAS IMPORTANT.
I THOUGHT A MAN WHO CAN LEAP TALL BUILDINGS WOULD BE ABOVE NEPOTISM.
AND I THOUGHT SO MUCH CYNICISM COULDN'T FIT INTO ONE TWELVE-YEAR-OLD.
BRUCE BELIEVED YOU DESERVED THIS.
AND YOUR FATHER WAS ALMOST ALWAYS RIGHT.
OFTEN IRRITATINGLY SO.


BRUCE WASN'T ALWAYS RIGHT.
OF COURSE NOT. WHEN WE'RE YOUNG, FATHERS ARE RARELY EVER RIGHT.
AND THEN WE GROW OLDER, AND WE REALIZE WHAT THEY WERE TRYING TO PROTECT US FROM.
I LIKED YOUR DAD. HE WAS OLD-SCHOOL. JONATHAN KENT WAS AS GENUINE AS HE SEEMED, WASN'T HE?
HE WAS.
I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT...WHAT HAPPENED.
ARE YOU OKAY?
AM I...?
YOU'RE A GOOD YOUNG MAN, DAMIAN.
AND THE RIGHT CHOICE TO TAKE UP THE MANTLE. YOU SHOULDN'T BE AFRAID.


BUT I'M GUESSING IT'S NOT ACTUALLY THE SYMBOL THAT SCARES YOU.
NO.
NO.
IT'S JUST, IF I PUT ON HIS SUIT...
...IT MEANS HE'S REALLY GONE.
BRUCE BECAME A HERO BECAUSE HE LOST PEOPLE HE LOVED. HE FOUGHT EVERY DAY TO STOP THAT FROM HAPPENING TO OTHERS. THE WORLD NEEDS THAT MORE THAN EVER.
I BELIEVE THE WORLD NEEDS YOU, BATMAN.


ARE YOU SURE?
I'M CERTAIN.
THE COWL DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
IT WILL.
IT'S JUST...I DON'T KNOW.
DO I LOOK STUPID?
NO. MASTER DAMIAN...


...YOU LOOK LIKE YOUR FATHER.
THE WORLD HAD A BATMAN AGAIN...


...WE WERE GOING TO NEED HIM.
WINK.
WHAT IS IT?
THERE'S SOMETHING ON THE HORIZON.
AN HOUR AFTER BLACK ADAM HAD BEEN TAKEN BY THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION, HE HAD INFECTED OR KILLED EVERYONE IN HIS NATION.
AND NOW UNDEAD KAHNDAQ WAS SPREADING AS A WAVE OF DEATH.

MY GOD.
KOOM

WINK
YOU OKAY?
WE HAVE TO GO! WE HAVE TO WARN JOTUNHEIM!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT DID YOU SEE?

"AN ARMY IS COMING."
NEXT: MOTHER KNOWS BEST

MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE

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#ConnectedTogether

Art by Tony S. Daniel / Colors by Tomeu Morey

ZONE